

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) A transmission tube assembly comprising at least two discrete transmission tubes arranged in axially parallel and adjacent relationship, each tube have a percussive powder composition inside the tubes, an elongated adhesive bead provided between said adjacent tubes along at least a substantial portion of the entire length of said tubes, said tubes being extruded from a synthetic polymer and said adhesive being a polymeric adhesive or copolymer extruded continuously along the entire length of said tubes and providing the sole connection between said synthetic tubes.
3. (Currently Amended) The invention of claim 2 above wherein said percussive powder comprises a crystalline pentaphenaltetranitrate or the equivalent, said percussive powder adhered to the inner surface of said synthetic polymeric tube.
4. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 2 wherein said adhesive comprising an EVA copolymer with a vinyl acetate content ranging from 2% to 20%.
5. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 4 further characterized by said synthetic polymer tubes constructed with an outer abrasion resistant layer of material selected from the group of polyethylene or nylon.

6. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim [[4]] 5 wherein said tubes have an inner layer of Surlyn or the equivalent inner and outer layers, said inner layer being SURLYN.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 3 wherein said adhesive has transmission tubes include outer layers fabricated from a plastic polymer having a vinyl acetate content between 2% and 20% by weight.

12. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 11 wherein the preferred (range is about 12%) said adhesive vinyl acetate content by weight is about 12%.

13. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim [[12]] 11 wherein the vinyl acetate content is selected to achieve a predetermined pulling force required to separate the two tubes in the field, the higher vinyl acetate content requiring a higher separation force.

14. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim [[7]] 13 wherein initiators and detonators are affixed to the redundant shock tube assembly at opposite ends thereof and a spool for storing said transmission tube thereon, said spool having one end and an opposite end.

15. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 14 wherein a detonator crimped to one end of the [[shock]] transmission tube [[is]] provided on the one end of said spool, and a protective cap [[is]] provided on the other end of the ~~redundant shock~~ transmission tube, both said one and said other end of said transmission tube being mounted on the one end of [[a]] said spool so that the spool can be housed in a container having only one side open.

16. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 15 further including a flange on the one end of said spool ~~housing the coiled redundant shock tube~~, the flange being configured with a ~~tapered~~ an exit hole, ~~where the tube assembly exits the barrel of the spool and said other end of said transmission tube running to said exit hole~~, in order to avoid snagging of the tube during rapid deployment of the tube from the spool.

17. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 2 wherein each tube is of different external color for identification purposes.